

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for providing adaptive programming listings to a customer communication device entity over a network by a host system, comprising:

gathering a list of available programming data from a server;

storing the list of available programming data in a database;

gathering program recommendation guides from non-customer third parties and storing the program recommendation guides in a recommendation guide database, the program recommendation guides comprising lists of programming data recommended by the non-customer third parties;

presenting a user interface to the customer entity along with the program recommendation guides;

receiving from the customer entity at least one selection from the program recommendation guides and storing the at least one selection in a customer preference database;

receiving a request from the customer entity for an on-screen program listing;

processing the request by comparing a list of recommended programming data of the at least one program recommendation guide selection with the list of available programming data and modifying an available on-screen program listing of the list of available programming data according to the list of recommended programming data of the at least one program recommendation guide selection;

presenting a filtered on-screen program listing to the customer entity resulting from the processing; and

automatically signaling a personal recording device to record a program on behalf of the customer entity;

wherein the user interface includes an option to enable the customer to globally turn off and on preference filtering that allows the customer to access programming that would otherwise be blocked without requiring the customer to edit previously selected customer preferences, wherein presenting the filtered on-screen program guide to the customer includes presenting otherwise blocked titles to the customer when the option is turned off.

2. (Canceled)

3. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising performing:
~~transmitting a program signal to the customer entity in response to a request to view a program listed on the filtered program listing~~ automatically signaling the personal recording device to record a plurality of programs simultaneously.

4. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising:
generating a custom program recommendation guide by the host system using the available programming data and storing the custom program recommendation guide in the database.

5. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 wherein the processing the request further includes:

deleting programs appearing as unacceptable programs on the list of recommended programming data of the at least one program recommendation guide selection from the available on-screen program listing;

retaining any programs appearing as acceptable programs on the list of recommended programming data of the at least one program recommendation guide selection on the available on-screen program listing; and

handling programs not otherwise dealt with by the at least one program recommendation guide selection in accordance with instructions provided by the customer entity.

6. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the non-customer third parties include external sources comprising at least one of:

a magazine;

a religious organization;

a topical web site;

a video store; and

a commercial business.

7. (Cancelled)

8. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the presenting a filtered on-screen program listing to the customer entity resulting from the processing further includes presenting a filtered on-screen program listing in accordance with an access level granted to an account member, the access level extending or limiting access to view program listings.

9. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 3, wherein the transmitting a program signal to the customer entity in response to a request to view a program further includes transmitting the program signal in accordance with an access level granted to an account member, the access level extending or limiting access to view a program.

10. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 3, wherein the automatically signaling a personal recording device to record the program on behalf of the customer

entity further includes signaling the personal recording device in accordance with an access level granted to an account member, the access level extending or limiting access to record a program or view an already recorded program.

11. (Currently Amended) A storage medium encoded with machine-readable computer program code for providing adaptive programming listings to a customer communication device entity over a network by a host system, the storage medium including instructions for causing a computer to implement a method, comprising:

gathering a list of available programming data from a server;

storing the list of programming data in a database;

gathering program recommendation guides from non-customer third parties and storing the program recommendation guides in a recommendation guide database, the program recommendation guides comprising lists of programming data recommended by the non-customer third parties;

presenting a user interface to the customer entity along with the program recommendation guides;

receiving from the customer entity at least one selection from the program recommendation guides and storing the at least one selection in a customer preferences database;

receiving a request from the customer entity for an on-screen program listing;

processing the request by comparing a list of recommended programming data of the at least one program recommendation guide selection with the list of available programming data and modifying an available on-screen program listing of the list of available programming data according to the list of recommended programming data of the at least one program recommendation guide selection;

presenting a filtered on-screen program listing to the customer entity resulting from the processing; and

automatically signaling a personal recording device to record a program on behalf of the customer entity;

wherein the user interface includes an option to enable the customer to globally turn off and on preference filtering that allows the customer to access programming that would otherwise be blocked without requiring the customer to edit previously selected customer preferences, wherein presenting the filtered on-screen program guide to the customer includes presenting otherwise blocked titles to the customer when the option is turned off.

12. (Canceled)

13. (Currently Amended) The storage medium of claim 11, further comprising instructions for causing the computer to perform wherein the gathering includes:

~~transmitting a program signal to the customer entity in response to a request to view a program~~evaluating the customer entity's service plan and filtering by the customer entity's available channel listing.

14. (Previously Presented) The storage medium of claim 11, further comprising instructions for causing the computer to implement:

generating a program recommendation guide by the host system using the available programming data and storing the custom program recommendation guide in the recommendation guide database.

15. (Previously Presented) The storage medium of claim 11, wherein the processing the request further includes:

removing programs appearing as unacceptable programs on the list of recommended programming data of the at least one program recommendation guide selection from the available on-screen program listing;

retaining any programs appearing as acceptable programs on the list of recommended programming data of the at least one program recommendation guide selection on the available on-screen program listing; and

handling programs not otherwise dealt with by the at least one program recommendation guide selection in accordance with instructions provided by the customer entity.

16. (Currently amended) The storage medium of claim 11, wherein the non-customer third parties include external sources comprising at least one of:

a film institute;

a magazine;

a religious organization;

a topical web site;

a video store; and

a commercial business.

17. (Cancelled)

18. (Previously Presented) The storage medium of claim 11, wherein the presenting a filtered on-screen program listing to the customer entity resulting from the processing further includes presenting a filtered on-screen program listing in accordance with an access level granted to an account member, the access level extending or limiting access to view program listings.

19. (Previously Presented) The storage medium of claim 13, wherein the transmitting a program signal to the customer entity in response to a request to view a program further includes transmitting the program signal in accordance with an access level granted to an account member, the access level extending or limiting access to view a program.

20. (Previously Presented) The storage medium of claim 13, wherein the automatically signaling a personal recording device to record the program on behalf of the customer entity further includes signaling the personal recording device in accordance with an access level granted to an account member, the access level extending or limiting access to record a program or view an already recorded program.

21. (Currently Amended) A system for providing adaptive programming listings over a communications network, comprising:

a customer entity comprising a communication device;

a host system in communication with the customer entity via the communications network, the host system comprising a server, a database of available programming data, a database of customer preferences, and a database of program recommendation guides; and

a preference filtering system executing on the host system;

wherein the preference filtering system performs:

gathering a list of available programming data from the server;

storing the list of available programming data in the database of available programming data;

gathering program recommendation guides from non-customer third parties and storing the program recommendation guides in the database of program recommendation guides, the program recommendation guides comprising lists of programming data recommended by the non-customer third parties;

presenting a user interface to the customer entity along with the program recommendation guides;

receiving from the customer entity at least one selection from the program recommendation guides;

storing the at least one program recommendation guide selection in the database of customer preferences;

receiving a request from the customer entity for an on-screen program listing;

processing the request by comparing a list of recommended programming data of the at least one program recommendation guide selection with the list of available programming data and modifying an available on-screen program listing of the list of available programming data according to the list of recommended programming data of the at least one program recommendation guide selection;

presenting a filtered on-screen program listing to the customer entity resulting from the processing; and

automatically signaling a personal recording device to record a program on behalf of the customer entity;

wherein the user interface includes an option to enable the customer entity to globally turn off and on preference filtering that allows the customer entity to access programming that would otherwise be blocked without requiring the customer entity to edit previously selected customer preferences, wherein presenting the filtered on-screen program guide to the customer entity includes presenting otherwise blocked titles to the customer entity when the option is turned off.

22. (Cancelled)

23. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 21, wherein the customer entity comprises at least one of a:

television;

a personal recording device;

a telephone;

a set-top box;

a personal computer; and

a personal digital assistant.

24. (Currently amended) The method of claim 6, wherein the non-customer third parties include external sources comprising a film institute.

25. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 9, wherein the account member is a member of a household and is provided access to program recommendation guides based upon rights assigned by a master account holder in the household.

26. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 10, wherein the account member is a member of a household and is provided access to program recommendation guides based upon rights assigned by a master account holder in the household.

27. (Currently amended) The system of claim 21, wherein the non-customer third parties include external sources comprising a film institute and at least one of:

a magazine;

a religious organization;

a topical web site;

a video store; and

a commercial business.

28. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 21, wherein the preference filtering system further performs:

transmitting a program signal to the customer entity in response to a request to view a program listed on the filtered program listing and in accordance with an access level granted to an account member, the access level extending or limiting access to view a program;

wherein the account member is a member of a household and is provided access to program recommendation guides based upon rights assigned by a master account holder in the household; and

determining view and record capabilities of the account member based on the rights.

29. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 21, wherein the preference filtering system further performs:

transmitting a program signal to the customer entity in response to a request to view a program listed on the filtered program listing;

wherein the automatically signaling a personal recording device to record the program on behalf of the customer entity further includes signaling the personal recording device in accordance with an access level granted to an account member, the access level extending or limiting access to record a program or view an already recorded program;

wherein the account member is a member of a household and is provided access to program recommendation guides based upon rights assigned by a master account holder in the household.

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